



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE

July 24, 1998

S. 2319
Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp Promotion Act
of 1998

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Environment
and Public Works on July 22, 1998*

S. 2319 would authorize the Secretary of the Interior to use a portion of annual revenues derived from duck stamps (which are a form of hunting permit) for marketing purposes. Specifically, the bill would allow the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) to use up to \$1 million of such revenues each year through 2003 for the purpose of promoting the stamps. Under existing law, all of the revenues earned from duck stamps each year (net of sales costs) are deposited in the migratory bird conservation fund, from which they are available without further appropriation to acquire and otherwise protect wetlands.

Enacting S. 2319 could affect governmental receipts by increasing amounts earned from the sale of federal duck stamps. If such receipts increase, direct spending also would increase because the additional receipts would be deposited in the migratory bird conservation fund, from which they would become available for spending without further appropriation. We do not expect these changes to significantly affect the migratory bird program, which earns and spends about \$20 million annually. Direct spending may also be affected because using the \$1 million of existing duck stamp receipts for marketing purposes could change the timing of some expenditures from the fund. As a result of these effects, pay-as-you-go procedures would apply, but CBO estimates that all changes would be small and would offset each other over time. We estimate that other provisions, which would amend certain reporting requirements and make technical amendments to other environmental acts, would have little or no impact on federal spending.

S. 2319 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would not affect the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

The CBO staff contact is Deborah Reis. This estimate was approved by Robert A. Sunshine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.